GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:80
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2004
CATTLE POPULATION
Majhi Shri Parsuram

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the decline in the cattle population in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of those States where cattle population is decreasing at fast rate during the last three years; and

(d) the views of the National Commission on Cattle in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a)to(d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.80 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6TH DECEMBER, 2004.

(a)&(b) As per the livestock censuses of 1992 and 1997, crossbred cattle population has increased by about 32.1% and indigenous cattle population has decreased by 5.6%, showing an overall decrease in total cattle population by about 2.8%. With 6.8% increase in buffalo population, there is an overall increase in bovine population by 0.2%. The provisional results compiled so far of the 17th Livestock Census, also indicate the same trend during the period 1997 to 2003 i.e. increase in crossbred cattle and buffalo population and decrease in indigenous cattle population, showing a preference towards high Yielding bovine population. Major decrease is in male cattle population during the successive periods mainly due to mechanization of agricultural activities etc.

(c): The States where the decrease of cattle population is higher are Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Manipur, and Punjab.

(d) : The National Commission on Cattle has pointed out that certain indigenous breeds of cattle in the country are becoming extinct.